FILED MAR 172015

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

NORMAN T. STEWARD, JR.,

CIVIL ACTION

Petitioner.

٧.

COMMONWEALTH, et al.,

NO. 13-2552

Respondents.

ORDER

AND NOW, this / 7th day of MARCH , 2015, upon careful and independent consideration of the petition for a writ of habeas corpus, the response to the petition and appended exhibits, and available state court records, and after review of the Report and Recommendation of United States Magistrate Judge David R. Strawbridge, it is **ORDERED** that:

- 1. The Report and Recommendation is APPROVED and ADOPTED;
- 2. The petition for a writ of habeas corpus is **DISMISSED WITH PREJUDICE**;
- 3. A certificate of appealability SHALL NOT issue, in that the Petitioner has not demonstrated that reasonable jurists would debate the correctness of the procedural grounds for this ruling. See 28 U.S.C. § 2253; Slack v. McDaniel, 529 U.S. 473, 484 (2000); and
 - 4. The Clerk of the Court shall mark this case CLOSED for statistical purposes.

BY THE COURT:

CLERK OF COURT